BLIZZARD v2 Design Overview

Blizzard v2 replaces both the current AVALANCHE Bulletin Board System (BBS) and AVALANCHE Blizzard software programs. The design was derived from both systems and incorporates additional functionality along with a crucial inspection file conversion feature for transforming ASPEN V1.x database tables into the SAFETYNET 2000 required format.

Blizzard v2 can be used in conjunction with the existing AVALANCHE Inspection Manager module or with the new SAFETYNET 2000. The configuration document will explain how to configure Blizzard for file transfers using either of the above mentioned inspection manager systems. During the transition into the new roadside suite of applications and SAFETYNET 2000, refer to the following table for compatibility concerns.

	BLIZZARD V2	SAFETYNET 2000	SAFETYNET 10
ASPEN V1.x	√	✓	√
ASPENV2	√	√	Х

Take special note, if using ASPEN v2 you must upgrade from SAFETYNET 10 to SAFETYNET 2000.

General Design Information

- Blizzard v2 is comprised of two tabs, a BBS activity tab and a SAFER activity tab.
- Tool bar buttons were added to quickly perform program tasks.
- The BBS operates in dial-up mode, however the SAFER connection can be either dial-up or network linked. The BBS and SAFER operations may share the modem based on a SAFER polling schedule established through the configuration menu.

Tab Descriptions

BBS Activity Tab

This tab displays all activity related to the Blizzard v2 BBS module. The BBS control center, located on the bottom portion of the screen, indicates the status of the BBS. In addition, it displays the time the last connection was made and the total amount of files and inspections received during a session.

SAFER Activity Tab

This tab displays all SAFER related actions. As with the BBS tab, it too has a control center display that indicates various activities such as; number of uploaded or downloaded files and time of next polling. A "poll now" button is also provided for immediate SAFER mailbox uploads or downloads.

Menu Functions

File

The File menu selection consists of two actions. The print selection brings up the log viewer menu and allows you to print log files. The exit selection closes down the Blizzard system.

Utilities

The utilities menu contains three types of functions; configuration, view logs and import from disk. The password protected configuration selection accesses the Blizzard setup menu. It is used to specify inspection destination paths, type of SAFER connection required, type of modem, and BBS user-id's and passwords. The view logs action allows the user to view the different kinds of logs available such as; error, logins, transfers, and general activity. The import from disk menu selection is used for manually transferring inspections into the Blizzard system. If the Blizzard configuration is set to use SAFETYNET 2000 and the inspection to be imported is in the ASPEN V1.x format, the inspection will be converted to the format required by SAFETYNET 2000.

<u>Help</u>

The help menu provides access to Blizzard v2's on-line help and information about the Blizzard v2 system.

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